



Curriculum Framework

# **Grade Three Introduction to History and Social Science**

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Board of Education  
Richmond, Virginia  
2001

### STANDARD 3.1

The student will explain how the contributions of ancient Greece and Rome have influenced the present in terms of architecture, government (direct and representative democracy), and sports.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
<p>The ancient Greeks and Romans were two groups of people who made significant contributions to society in terms of architecture, government, and sports.</p> <p>The ancient Greeks and Romans have influenced the lives of people today.</p>	<p>What styles in architecture used today came from ancient Greece and Rome?</p> <p>What principles of government from ancient Greece and Rome are part of our government?</p> <p>What sporting events today came from ancient Greece?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribution: The act of giving or doing something</li><li>• Direct democracy: A government in which people vote to make their own rules and laws</li><li>• Representative democracy: A government in which people vote for (elect) a smaller group of citizens to make their rules and laws for everyone</li></ul> <p><b>Architecture</b> The architects of ancient Greece and Rome used columns and arches in the construction of their buildings. Ancient examples still exist today:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greece—The Parthenon (columns)</li><li>• Rome—The Colosseum and aqueducts (arches)</li></ul> <p><b>The Arts</b> Mosaics, sculpture, and paintings are displayed on buildings.</p>	<p>Locate and use information from print and non-print sources.</p> <p>Use resource materials.</p> <p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p>

**STANDARD 3.1 (continued)**

**The student will explain how the contributions of ancient Greece and Rome have influenced the present in terms of architecture, government (direct and representative democracy), and sports.**

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<p><b>The Government of the United States</b> The government is based on the ideas developed in ancient Greece and Rome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greece: Birthplace of democracy (government by the people); a direct democracy</li><li>• Rome: Republican (representative) form of government; a representative democracy</li></ul> <p><b>Sports</b> Olympic games of today are modeled after the games of ancient Greece.</p>	

**STANDARD 3.2**

**The student will study the early West African empire of Mali by describing its oral tradition (storytelling), government (kings), and economic development (trade).**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<b>Essential Questions</b>	<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<b>Essential Skills</b>
<p>Most of what we know about Mali's history comes from oral accounts that were handed down from Mali storytellers.</p> <p>Mali was ruled by rich and powerful kings.</p> <p>Early Mali was a wealthy trading empire before Columbus sailed to America.</p>	<p>Why were storytellers so important in the empire of Mali?</p> <p>What do we know about the leaders of the empire of Mali?</p> <p>Why was the empire of Mali so wealthy?</p>	<p>Africa was the home to several great empires. One of the most prosperous was the empire of Mali.</p> <p>Many storytellers in Mali passed on traditions and stories from one generation to the next.</p> <p>The kings of Mali were rich and powerful men who controlled trade in West Africa. Mali became one of the largest and wealthiest empires in the region and was an important trade center.</p> <p>Mali lay across the trade routes between the sources of salt in the Sahara Desert and the gold region/mines of West Africa. For the people of the desert, salt was a natural resource. People used salt for their health and for preserving foods. Miners found gold in Western Africa. Therefore, salt was traded for gold.</p> <p>Timbuktu was an important city in Mali. It had a famous university with a large library containing Greek and Roman books.</p>	<p>Collect and record information.</p>

**STANDARD 3.3**

The student will study the exploration of the Americas by

- a) describing the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus, Juan Ponce de León, Jacques Cartier, and Christopher Newport;
- b) identifying reasons for exploring, the information gained, and the results from the travels.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills																				
The first explorers had different motivations, had different sponsors, and met different successes.	<p>Who were some of the important European explorers from Spain, England, and France?</p> <p>What were the different motivations of these early European explorers?</p> <p>What were the successes of these early European explorers?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Explorer: A person who travels seeking new discoveries</li><li>European: A person from one of the countries in Europe</li></ul> <table><tr><th>Explorers</th><th>Country (Sponsor)</th><th>Reasons for Exploring</th><th>Successes/Achievement</th></tr><tr><td>Christopher Columbus</td><td>Spain</td><td>To find a western sea route to Asia</td><td>First European to discover a sea route to America; discovered “New World” (landed at San Salvador)</td></tr><tr><td>Juan Ponce de León</td><td>Spain</td><td>To discover riches and land to conquer</td><td>First European to land in Florida (near St. Augustine); gave Spain claim to Florida</td></tr><tr><td>Jacques Cartier</td><td>France</td><td>To colonize the New World</td><td>Explored the St. Lawrence River Valley (near Quebec, Canada) and gave France a North American claim</td></tr><tr><td>Christopher Newport</td><td>England</td><td>To discover riches To find a western sea route to Asia To colonize Virginia</td><td>Arrived at present day Jamestown; made four additional voyages bringing more people to Jamestown; was one of the first men to reach the Fall Line of the James River</td></tr></table>	Explorers	Country (Sponsor)	Reasons for Exploring	Successes/Achievement	Christopher Columbus	Spain	To find a western sea route to Asia	First European to discover a sea route to America; discovered “New World” (landed at San Salvador)	Juan Ponce de León	Spain	To discover riches and land to conquer	First European to land in Florida (near St. Augustine); gave Spain claim to Florida	Jacques Cartier	France	To colonize the New World	Explored the St. Lawrence River Valley (near Quebec, Canada) and gave France a North American claim	Christopher Newport	England	To discover riches To find a western sea route to Asia To colonize Virginia	Arrived at present day Jamestown; made four additional voyages bringing more people to Jamestown; was one of the first men to reach the Fall Line of the James River	<p>Locate and use information from print and non-print sources.</p> <p>Distinguish between relevant and irrelevant information.</p> <p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p>
Explorers	Country (Sponsor)	Reasons for Exploring	Successes/Achievement																				
Christopher Columbus	Spain	To find a western sea route to Asia	First European to discover a sea route to America; discovered “New World” (landed at San Salvador)																				
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### STANDARD 3.4

The student will develop map skills by

- locating Greece, Rome, and West Africa;
- describing the physical and human characteristics of Greece, Rome, and West Africa;
- explaining how the people of Greece, Rome, and West Africa adapted to and/or changed their environment to meet their needs.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
<p>Ancient Greece and Rome were located near the Mediterranean Sea.</p> <p>The empire of Mali was located in the western region of the continent of Africa.</p> <p>People adapt to their environment in different ways.</p>	<p>Where were ancient Greece, ancient Rome, and the empire of Mali located?</p> <p>What were the physical and human characteristics of ancient Greece and Rome and West Africa (Mali)?</p> <p>How did the people of ancient Greece, ancient Rome, and Mali adapt to and change their environment to meet their needs?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Characteristics: Different traits</li></ul> <p>Ancient Greece and Rome were located on land near the Mediterranean Sea. The empire of Mali was located in the western region of the continent of Africa.</p> <p><b>Physical characteristics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ancient Greece: Located among mountains and hills, surrounded by Mediterranean Sea and limited rich soil</li><li>Ancient Rome: Located next to a river; city built on many hills; limited rich soil</li><li>Empire of Mali: Located in West Africa; near rivers; desert-like conditions; gold mines</li></ul> <p><b>Human characteristics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ancient Greece: Farmers, shipbuilders, and traders</li><li>Ancient Rome: Farmers, road builders, and traders</li><li>Empire of Mali: Farmers, miners, and traders</li></ul>	<p>Identify and locate features on a map and globe.</p> <p>Locate and use information from print and non-print sources.</p>

**STANDARD 3.4 (continued)**

The student will develop map skills by

- a) locating Greece, Rome, and West Africa;
- b) describing the physical and human characteristics of Greece, Rome, and West Africa;
- c) explaining how the people of Greece, Rome, and West Africa adapted to and/or changed their environment to meet their needs.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<p><b>Ways they adapted to their environments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ancient Greece: They farmed on hillsides; trading took place on the Mediterranean Sea; small independent communities developed because of the many mountains.</li><li>• Ancient Rome: They farmed on hillsides; trading took place on the Mediterranean Sea.</li><li>• Empire of Mali: Salt was an important natural resource for people in the desert; salt was traded for gold.</li></ul>	

### STANDARD 3.5

The student will develop map skills by

- a) positioning and labeling the seven continents and four oceans to create a world map;
- b) using the equator and prime meridian to identify the four hemispheres;
- c) locating the countries of Spain, England, and France;
- d) locating the regions in the Americas explored by Christopher Columbus (San Salvador in the Bahamas), Juan Ponce de León (near St. Augustine, Florida), Jacques Cartier (near Quebec, Canada), and Christopher Newport (Jamestown, Virginia);
- e) locating specific places on a simple letter-number grid system.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
<p>There are seven continents and four oceans located in the world.</p> <p>The equator and the prime meridian divide the globe into four hemispheres.</p> <p>A simple letter-number grid system on maps is used to locate places.</p>	<p>Where are the seven continents and the four oceans located on a world map?</p> <p>What imaginary lines are used to create hemispheres?</p> <p>On which continents are England, Spain, France, and the United States located?</p> <p>Where are the countries of Spain, England, and France located on a world map?</p> <p>Where are the regions (general areas) of San Salvador in the Bahamas; St. Augustine, Florida; Quebec, Canada; and Jamestown, Virginia located on a map?</p> <p>How is a simple letter-number grid system used to locate places on maps?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hemisphere: Half of a sphere (globe) created by the prime meridian or the equator</li><li>• Equator: An imaginary line around the middle of the earth that divides the globe into the northern and southern hemispheres</li><li>• Prime meridian: An imaginary line that divides the globe into the eastern and western hemispheres</li><li>• Regions: Places that have common characteristics</li></ul> <p>The physical shapes of the continents (North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica) and the positions of the four oceans (Arctic, Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific) may be identified on a world map.</p> <p>The equator and the prime meridian are used to create the four hemispheres.</p>	<p>Locate places on a grid system.</p> <p>Identify and locate continents, oceans, and major features on maps and globes.</p> <p>Draw maps of familiar areas.</p>



**STANDARD 3.5 (continued)**

The student will develop map skills by

- a) positioning and labeling the seven continents and four oceans to create a world map;
- b) using the equator and prime meridian to identify the four hemispheres;
- c) locating the countries of Spain, England, and France;
- d) locating the regions in the Americas explored by Christopher Columbus (San Salvador in the Bahamas), Juan Ponce de León (near St. Augustine, Florida), Jacques Cartier (near Quebec, Canada), and Christopher Newport (Jamestown, Virginia);
- e) locating specific places on a simple letter-number grid system.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<p>England, Spain, and France are located on the continent of Europe. The United States is located on the continent of North America.</p> <p>San Salvador is located in the general area of the Bahamas. St. Augustine is located in northern Florida. Quebec is located in Canada. Jamestown is located in Virginia.</p> <p>The letter (left) and number (bottom) coordinates of a grid system identify the exact location of a place.</p>	

**STANDARD 3.6**

The student will interpret geographic information from maps, tables, graphs, and charts.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
Use maps, tables, graphs, charts, and pictures to classify information.	What visual aids are used to gather and classify information?	Maps, tables, graphs, charts, and pictures are visual aids used to gather and classify geographic information.	Make and explain bar and pie graphs. Draw maps of familiar objects or areas. Construct and explain simple charts.

**STANDARD 3.7**

**The student will explain how producers use natural resources (water, soil, wood, and coal), human resources (people at work), and capital resources (machines, tools, and buildings) to produce goods and services for consumers.**

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
<p>Resources are used to produce goods and services.</p> <p>Producers of goods and services are influenced by natural, human, and capital resources.</p>	<p>How do producers use natural, human, and capital resources to produce goods and services?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Natural resources: Materials that come from nature (water, soil, wood, coal)</li><li>• Human resources: People working to produce goods and services</li><li>• Capital resources: Goods made by people and used to produce other goods and services (machines, tools, buildings)</li><li>• Producers: People who use resources to make goods and/or provide services</li><li>• Goods: Things that people make or use to satisfy needs and wants</li><li>• Services: Activities that satisfy people's needs and wants</li></ul>	<p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p> <p>Draw conclusion and make generalizations about data.</p>

**STANDARD 3.8**

The student will recognize the concepts of specialization (being an expert in one job, product, or service) and interdependence (depending on others) in the production of goods and services (in ancient Greece, Rome, the West African empire of Mali, and in the present).

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
Economic specialization and interdependence existed in the production of goods and services in the past and exist in our present-day communities.	<p>What is economic specialization?</p> <p>What is economic interdependence?</p> <p>How did economic specialization and interdependence exist in ancient Greece, ancient Rome, and the empire of Mali?</p> <p>Does economic interdependence exist in our present day community?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economic specialization: Focusing on one product or service</li><li>• Economic interdependence: Two or more people depending on each other for goods and services</li></ul> <p>Economic specialization occurs when people focus on the production of selected kinds of goods and services.</p> <p><b>Economic specialization and interdependence of communities in the past</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ancient Greece and Rome both focused on building ships, farming, and making pottery. (Specialization)</li><li>• Greeks and Romans traded their goods with Egypt and other nearby communities. (Interdependence)</li><li>• In the empire of Mali, some people specialized in protecting the empire, while others specialized in growing food for the empire. (Specialization)</li><li>• The people of Mali traded (gold for salt) with other people. (Interdependence)</li></ul>	<p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p> <p>Draw conclusions and make generalizations about data.</p>

**STANDARD 3.8 (continued)**

The student will recognize the concepts of specialization (being an expert in one job, product, or service) and interdependence (depending on others) in the production of goods and services (in ancient Greece, Rome, the West African empire of Mali, and in the present).

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<b>Economic specialization and interdependence in the present</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Virginia is known for its expertise in shipbuilding. (Specialization)</li><li>• Virginia sells its coal to other countries but depends on other countries for oil. (Interdependence)</li></ul>	Gather, classify, and interpret information.  Draw conclusions and make generalizations about data.

**STANDARD 3.9**

The student will identify examples of making an economic choice and will explain the idea of opportunity cost (what is given up when making a choice).

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge			Essential Skills
<p>People make choices because they cannot have everything they want.</p> <p>All choices require giving up something (opportunity cost).</p>	<p>Why does an economic choice involve giving up something else?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Economic choice: The choice of or decision among alternatives or possibilities</li><li>Opportunity cost: The next best choice that is given up when a decision is made</li></ul> <p>Economic decision-making requires comparing both the opportunity cost and the monetary cost of choices with benefits.</p> <p><b>Economic Choices</b></p>			<p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p> <p>Make decisions.</p> <p>Explain cause and effect relationships.</p>
		Choices	Choices made	Choices given up (opportunity cost)	
		Ice cream or popcorn	Ice cream	Popcorn	
		Toy or favorite video	Favorite video	Toy	
		Spend now or save for the future	Spend now	Save for the future	

### STANDARD 3.10

The student will recognize why government is necessary in the classroom, school, and community by

- a) explaining the purpose of rules and laws;
- b) explaining that the basic purposes of government are to make laws, carry out laws, and decide if laws have been broken;
- c) explaining that government protects the rights and property of individuals.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
Governments protect the rights and property of individuals.	<p>What is government?</p> <p>What are the basic purposes of government?</p> <p>Why is government necessary?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community: A place where people live, work, and play</li><li>• Rules: What people must or must not do</li><li>• Laws: Rules people live by</li><li>• Government: A group of people who make rules and laws, carry out rules and laws, and decide if rules and laws have been broken.</li></ul> <p>The purpose of rules is to let people know how they should act or behave.</p> <p>The purpose of government is to make laws, carry out laws, and decide if laws have been broken.</p> <p>Governments are necessary because they develop the laws and protect the rights and property of individuals.</p>	<p>Compare and contrast differing sets of ideas, values, personalities, behaviors, and institutions.</p> <p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p> <p>Explain cause and effect relationships.</p>

### STANDARD 3.11

The student will explain the importance of the basic principles that form the foundation of a republican form of government by

- a) describing the individual rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law;
- b) identifying the contributions of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, and Martin Luther King, Jr.;
- c) recognizing that Veterans Day and Memorial Day honor people who have served to protect the country's freedoms.

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
<p>Some basic principles held by American citizens include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law.</p> <p>Citizens have worked to defend American principles.</p> <p>Veterans Day is the recognition of and respect for Americans who served in the military.</p> <p>Memorial Day is the recognition of Americans who died in wars while they were serving their country.</p>	<p>What are some basic principles commonly held by American citizens?</p> <p>How did American citizens work to defend American principles?</p> <p>Why do we recognize Veterans Day and Memorial Day?</p>	<p><b>Basic principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are privileges that people are born with and that cannot be taken away.</li><li>Equality under the law means that all people are treated fairly.</li></ul> <p>Many people worked to defend the basic principles that formed the foundation of a republican form of government.</p> <p><b>Citizens who defended basic principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>George Washington: He was the first President of the new nation. He worked under the new republican form of government. He helped put the basic principles into practice for the new nation.</li><li>Thomas Jefferson: He was born in Virginia. He was the third President of the United States. He wrote the Declaration of Independence, which states that people have certain rights. He was a leader who helped develop the country.</li></ul>	<p>Compare, and contrast differing sets of ideas, values, personalities, behaviors, and institutions.</p> <p>Gather, classify, and interpret information.</p>



**STANDARD 3.11 (continued)**

**The student will explain the importance of the basic principles that form the foundation of a republican form of government by**

- a) describing the individual rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law;**
- b) identifying the contributions of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, and Martin Luther King, Jr.;**
- c) recognizing that Veterans Day and Memorial Day honor people who have served to protect the country's freedoms.**

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abraham Lincoln: He was the United States President when the country was divided over the issue of equality for all people. He helped free African American slaves.</li><li>• Rosa Parks: She is an African American woman who refused to give up her seat on a public bus as was required by law many years ago. She helped to bring about changes in laws and worked so that all people would have equal rights.</li><li>• Thurgood Marshall: He was a lawyer who defended people at a time when not all people had equal rights. He was the first African American justice of the United States Supreme Court.</li><li>• Martin Luther King, Jr.: He was an African American minister who worked for equal rights for all people. He helped bring about changes in laws through peaceful means.</li></ul>	

**STANDARD 3.11 (continued)**

**The student will explain the importance of the basic principles that form the foundation of a republican form of government by**

- a) describing the individual rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law;**
- b) identifying the contributions of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, and Martin Luther King, Jr.;**
- c) recognizing that Veterans Day and Memorial Day honor people who have served to protect the country's freedoms.**

Essential Understandings	Essential Questions	Essential Knowledge	Essential Skills
		<p><b>Days to remember</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterans Day: This is a day for the recognition of and respect for Americans who served in the military. It is observed in November.</li><li>• Memorial Day: This is a day for the recognition of and respect for Americans who died in wars while they were serving their country. It is observed in May.</li></ul>	

**STANDARD 3.12**

**The student will recognize that Americans are a people of diverse ethnic origins, customs, and traditions, who are united by the basic principles of a republican form of government and respect for individual rights and freedoms.**

<b>Essential Understandings</b>	<b>Essential Questions</b>	<b>Essential Knowledge</b>	<b>Essential Skills</b>
<p>The American people come from diverse ethnic and national origins and are united as Americans by basic American principles.</p> <p>Being an American is defined by the shared basic principles of the republican form of government.</p>	<p>What unites the people of the United States?</p> <p>What are some benefits of diversity in the United States?</p>	<p><b>Terms to know</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Republican form of government: A representative democracy</li></ul> <p>The American people come from different ethnic origins and different countries, but are united as Americans by the basic principles of a republican form of government, including individual rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and equality under the law.</p> <p><b>Benefits of diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food</li><li>• Clothing</li><li>• Music</li></ul>	<p>Differentiate between points of view by self and others.</p> <p>Participate in groups and democratic society.</p> <p>Make generalizations about data.</p>